exchange earned therefrom since 1990-91 are as under :—

Year		Rice	Wheat	Other Cereals
1990-91	Qty.	505029	139470	7310
	Value	461.57	31.13	2.77
1991-92	. Qty.	678463	586519	14150
	Value	755.58	126.98	7.01
1992-93	. Qty.	606980	37278	17079
	Value	971.93	10.17	10.13
1993-94	Qty.	468428	35000	44465
	Value	775.62	0.18	12.61

(April—November, 1993)

(Source : DGCI & S, Calcutta)

(c) Itemwise targets of foodgrains ex port for the next five years have not been fixed. (d) It is the policy of Government to allow the export of items of mass consump tion in such a manner that it does not compromise our food security.

Patent Right of Medicinal Plants

1876. SHRI ASHOK MITRA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that because of the new GATT treaty, foreigners will henceforth have an unrestricted right to take out medicinal and other plant out of the country.

(b) whether it is also a fact that medicines manufactured overseas with the help of the extracts from such plants will enjoy patent right in our country; and

(c) whether legal opinion has been sought on the claim of patent rights on medicinal plants subjected to exports ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Medicines manufactured overas with the help of extracts from Indian plants will be eligible for patents in India only in accordance with the provisions of our own national laws on the subject, Under our existing patent laws. product patents are not granted in the area of drugs, pharmaceuticals chemicals and food products. Even in future we do not intend to grant any patents in case of naturally occuring substasces incluling general sequences.

Implications of GATT on India's Environment

1877. SHRI ASHOK MITRA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased ' to state :

(a) whether an indepth study has been undertake on the implications of the new GATT treaty on India's environment;

(b) if so, the principal conclusions reached in the study ; and

(c) whether, before the GATT agreement is finalised at tile ministerial meeting scheduled for March, 1994, efforts would be made to introduce suitable changes in the draft in order to care of the concerns aired by environmental experts ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) Government have not undertaken such a study.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The proposed Uruguay Round GATT Agreement does not contain any new pro visions relating to Environment. However, a Group on Environmental measures and International Trade has been working in